CITY OF PLEASANT GROVE, ALABAMA

COUNCIL MINUTES

MARCH 04, 2024

The City Council of Pleasant Grove, Alabama, met in the Council Chambers on Monday, March 04, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Jerry Brasseale presiding. The following were present:

Mayor: Jerry W. Brasseale

Council Members: Kevin Dunn

Ray Lassiter

Philip Houston

Yolanda Lawson

Eric Calhoun

Also present: Recarda Cobb (City Clerk), Chief Daniel Reid (Public Safety Director) and John Williamson (Building Inspector).

Prayer: Mayor Jerry Brasseale.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston.

Mayor Jerry Brasseale introduced Abdul Awahid who is a candidate for Jefferson County Constable District 57.

Abdul Alwahid gave a brief background of himself, and discussed his past experiences that have prepared for the Constable position. He asked all in attendance for their vote.

Mayor Jerry Brasseale introduced Pleasant Grove High School DECA Marketing Program.

Ms. Janice Lane, DECA Advisor, gave a brief overview of the program and discussed how Pleasant Grove students have excelled in the program. She stated that Pleasant Grove students have received top rankings in the State of Alabama, and have been invited to the 2024 International DECA Conference in Anaheim, California.

Brooklyn Cottrell, Pleasant Grove High School student who placed second in Hotel and Lodging Management in Alabama, will compete at the 2024 International DECA Conference. Ms. Cottrell talked about what is needed to attend the event, and asked the Mayor and Council for their support.

Dr. Kameka Cottrell, Pleasant Grove High School Teacher, stated that the goal is to raise $12,000.00 for Pleasant Grove DECA program. She asked the Mayor and Council to allocate $3,500.00.

Councilor Yolanda Lawson commended the Pleasant Grove DECA program and ask for more detail concerning the event. Also, Councilor Lawson stated that she would like to communicate more to see what the Mayor and Council can do to help.

Councilor Yolanda Lawson presented Kaitlin Rose Akerson, Pleasant Grove High School senior, with a proclamation recognizing her as the 2024 Boys and Girls Club of America Student of the Year.

Kaitlin Rose Akerson thanked the Mayor and Council for the recognition.

# APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston made a motion to approve the minutes from the last regular scheduled meeting held on February 20, 2024.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Kevin Dunn.

Motion passed unanimously.

# APPROVAL OF BILLS

Councilor Yolanda Lawson made a motion to approve payment of bills in the amount of $291,016.83.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Eric Calhoun.

Motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 2024-13** Resolution of the City of Pleasant Grove, Alabama approving the renewal of Pleasant Grove’s Property and Casualty Insurance with Patrick Insurance Agency Inc (AMIC).

Councilor Yolanda Lawson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-13.

The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston.

Motion passed unanimously.

# APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 2024-14 A Resolution of the City of Pleasant Grove, Alabama selecting voting delegates for the business session at the Alabama League of Municipalities Annual Convention, May 17, 2024.

Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston made a motion for Mayor Jerry Brasseale to be the voting delegate and Councilor Eric Calhoun to be the alternate.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Yolanda Lawson.

Motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 2024-15.** A Resolution of the City of Pleasant Grove, Alabama amending February 20, 2024 minutes to add allocating $25,000.00 from ARPA funds to install a pad to have exercise equipment placed, if the Blue Cross/ Blue Shield grant is awarded.

Councilor Kevin Dunn made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-15.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Ray Lassiter.

Motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 2024-16.** A Resolution of the City of Pleasant Grove, Alabama agreeing to allocate $130,126.36 of ARPA funds to repave Pleasant Grove Sports Complex walking track.

Councilor Kevin Dunn made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-16.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Ray Lassiter.

Motion passed unanimously.

# OFFICERS OF THE CITY REPORTS

Recarda Cobb – None

Chief Daniel Reid swore in Detective Christopher Riddle as new Sergeant.

Sgt. Riddle thanked the citizens, Mayor, and Council.

Chief Daniel Reid swore in Sgt. James Williamson as new Lieutenant.

Lt. Williamson thanked Chief Daniel Reid, Mayor, and Council. Also, he thanked his wife and family for the sacrifices they made.

John Williamson discussed the spring cleanup (April 8-12, 2024), and stated that Jefferson County will be collecting the hazardous waste at a different site.

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Ray Lassiter briefly talked about the upcoming pavement of roads and introduced Ms. Tiffany Walker, Marketing Manager at Step One Automotive.

Ms. Tiffany Walker gave an overview of some of the things Step One Automotive is doing in the communities of Bessemer and Birmingham, and stated that they’re looking forward to partnering with the City of Pleasant Grove.

Councilor Kevin Dunn congratulated Pleasant Grove Girls Basketball team on a great season, stated that the Black History program at the high school was outstanding, and discussed how Black History has influenced his life. Councilor Dunn talked about Black Wall Street in Tulsa, Oklahoma, encouraged citizens to focus on correcting their households, and emphasized how he celebrates his kids on a continuous basis. Also, Councilor Dunn discussed bidding out the grass cutting at the Sports Complex, gave an overview of quotes on upgrading Pleasant Grove parks, and talked about an ALDOT grant of $250,000.00, which he suggested allocating $94,508.00 of ARPA funds towards the grant.

Councilor Eric Calhoun stated that Public Safety is doing well, discussed bidding for website and streaming services, and said that he is looking to establish more ordinances to better Pleasant Grove.

Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston stated that the library is celebrating National Women’s History Month in March, and the Pleasant Grove Poetry Club and Book Club will be meeting in March as well. Mayor Pro-Tem Houston also encouraged everyone to visit the library.

Councilor Yolanda Lawson discussed the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which is the landmark piece of legislation in the United States that prohibits racial discrimination in voting. Councilor Lawson encouraged everybody to vote on March 05, 2024, suggested calling to verify voting location before heading to the polls, and wished all women a “Happy Women’s Month”. Also, Councilor Lawson said that she will be requesting the following funds:

PG Volleyball Team $9,000.00

PG Softball Team $13,200.00

PG Elementary School $50,000.00

Councilor Lawson introduced L.A.P.P (Literacy Act Preparation Plan) and N.A.P.P. (Numeracy Act Preparation Plan), which were both created in response to the recently passed acts that require all third graders to test at a certain level or be retained in the third grade. Reading and Math coaches have been assigned to Pleasant Grove Elementary School. Lastly, Councilor Lawson stated that Pleasant Grove teachers’ attendance rate is 97%, PTA parent participation is at 100%, and she discussed a meeting with Superintendent Dr. Walter Gonsoulin about new programs coming to Jefferson County Schools which includes a pharmacy program.

# MAYOR REPORT

None

# CITIZENS COMMENTS

None

# ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston made motion to adjourn.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Jerry W. Brasseale, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Recarda Cobb, City Clerk